

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-22 are pending. Claims 1-22 stand rejected. In this Amendment, claims 1, 4, 9, 12, 17 and 18 have been amended. Claims 2, 3, 10 and 11 have been canceled without prejudice. Support for the amendment is found in the specification, the drawings, and in the claims as originally filed. It is respectfully submitted that the amendment does not add new matter. Applicants reserve all rights with respect to the applicability of the doctrine of equivalents.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

The Examiner has rejected claims 4, 12, and 18 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicants have amended claims 4, 12, and 18, thus overcoming the rejection.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,819,678 of Sylvain. ("Sylvain"). Claim 1, as amended, recites:

A method comprising:

setting a first connection between an edge gateway of a first voice packet network, having voice data of a first format, and an interworking unit; and

setting a second connection between an edge gateway of a second voice packet network, having voice data of a second format, and the interworking unit, wherein the interworking unit provides a conversion function to directly convert one of the voice data of the first format to voice data of the second format or the voice data of the second format to voice data of the first format, wherein the conversion function is controlled by one of a call agent of the first voice packet network or a call agent of the second voice packet network.

(Claim 1, as amended) (emphasis added).

In contrast, Sylvain discloses:

As conversion between PDUs of a plurality of transport protocols is desirable, it is efficient to use a base format as an intermediate format for converting between a receive and a transmit protocol. The base format is preferably a Pulse Code

Modulated (PCM) format, which is used for standard telephone payload in the PSTN.

(Sylvain; col. 5, lines 55-60) (emphasis added).

Thus, Sylvain discloses converting between two voice formats by converting to an intermediate format first. Therefore, Sylvain does not teach or suggest directly converting one of the voice data of the first format to voice data of the second format or the voice data of the second format to voice data of the first format, as claimed. As such, Sylvain does not anticipate amended claim 1.

Given that claims 9 and 17, as amended, include such a limitation and given that claims 4-8, claims 12 – 16, and claims 18 -22 depend, directly or indirectly, from claims 1, 9, and 17, respectively, applicants respectfully submit that claims 4-9 and 12-22 are likewise not anticipated by Sylvain.

Summary

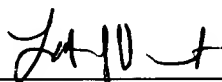
It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and arguments set forth herein, the applicable rejections and objections have been overcome. If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any fee deficiency that may be due.

Respectfully submitted,

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